25th July 1953]

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I would like the hon. Member to put a separate question."

Quality and quantity of rice despatched from Vijayavada to Cannanore.

* 1026 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether he has received the copy of a letter, dated 24th March 1953, from the President of the Cannanore Producers-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited, No. CL 141/53, addressed to the Collector of Malabar, Kozhikode, about the shortage in quantity and bad quality of rice despatched from Vijayavada to Cannanore for distribution there; and if so, what action is proposed to be taken to set right the defects immediately?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes. The matter is under investigation by the Government."

Quality and quantity of rice despatched from Vijayavada to Cannanore.

* 1027 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any letter or memoranda, dated 23rd and 24th March 1953, from Cannanore Producers-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited, Malabar, complaining against the quality and the heavy shortage of rice despatched from Vijayavada, and if so, what action has been taken ; and

(*b*) whether similar complaints have been received from other societies or any other quarter?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes. The matter is under investigation by the Government.

" (*b*) Yes."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are the Government aware that the quantity of deficit is valued at Rs. 84,777 in Cannanore and Rs. 1,80,000 or so by 20 Producer-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies of Malabar last year? May I know what steps the Government propose to take to make good this loss? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, there have been large-scale shortages in the various consignments. The matter is now under investigation and we are taking all steps necessary to recoup the loss."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that rice sent from Vijayavada and classed as first sort was found to be useless and unfit for human consumption and so, much loss was sustained by the Movenchari P.C.C. and other societies? "